ChatGPT prompting for SLPs

Don't treat ChatGPT like a traditional search engine

🚫 Don't prompt like this: "Free PDF /s/ words for speech therapy."
✅ Good: "Create a list of 10 words beginning with the "s" sound."
✅ Better: "Create a numbered list of 10 words beginning with the "s" sound that relate to the history of the Chicago Bears. Choose words that are interesting and at least 3 syllables long."

Assign ChatGPT a persona

Improve your results by asking ChatGPT to pose as a specific kind of expert. Here are some examples:

✅ "Act like you are an **SLP** preparing materials for a session and create...."
✅ "Pretend you are a **linguist** and make a list of words such that…"
✅ "Assume the role of a **neurologist** and explain…"
✅ "You are an **AAC expert**. Please give me step-by-step instructions for…"
✅ "Act like a **utilization management specialist**. Please help me word this…"
✅ "Imagine that you are an **IT expert** and explain to me how I can…"

Be specific

🚫 Don't give vague or non-specific instructions.
✅ Use clear, specific vocabulary. Tell it who you are, what you're looking for, and why.
✅ Avoid ambiguity. If you want 3-syllable words, ask for "exactly 3 syllables", otherwise you may get words that have "at least 3 syllables."
✅ Be clear what format you're looking for. For example, a numbered list? A table? A line-drawing? A photo-realistic image?

Give examples

Improve your results by giving examples.
✅ "Give me a list of household tasks an older individual could do while sitting down. Another adult will be able to set them up at the table. For instance, sorting mail or dusting knicknacks."
✅ "What are some things an older individual could do while sitting down for leisure? Common examples might be a crossword puzzle or solitaire. Could you make a list of less common activities?"

Treat ChatGPT like an assistant

Have a conversation with ChatGPT to improve the results.
🚫 Don't simply accept the first response, unless it's exactly what you were looking for!
🚫 Don't click away in frustration.
✅ Ask ChatGPT to explain its answer.
✅ Pointing out mistakes and ask it to fix its answer.
✅ Break down complex tasks into smaller steps.
✅ Ask ChatGPT to tell you what it knows about the topic. This can help "prime" it.

Things to remember

✅ **Be polite.** ChatGPT doesn't have feelings, but it was trained on the language of humans. Humans are more helpful when we're nice, and so are chatbots.
✅ **Be mindful of safety and security**. Don't share sensitive information.
✅ Always **check the accuracy** of the results!
✅ If it has trouble with a complex task and you've followed the steps above, it may not be able to perform that task yet. Try again in a month or so.
✅ If ChatGPT is having trouble with a task it has done before, **try again in a few hours (or days)**. Chances are that something got tweaked in the background, and it will get sorted out.

Other AI tools you may wish to try

- **SLPeaceBot.com** - A HIPAA-compliant AI tool. You summarize your session aloud, and the tool will create a SOAP note which you can copy or email to yourself.
- **Sora** (openai.com/sora) - OpenAI's video generation tool. You can create videos from text prompts, images, or from existing videos.
- **Runway** Gen-2 or Gen-3 (runwayml.com) - A video generation tool that creates videos from text prompts or existing videos.
- **Google Notebook LM** (notebooklm.google.com) - Input one or more files and it automatically generates study guides, FAQ's, and more. You can converse with it to ask specific questions. You can also instruct it to create a podcast talk show in which the AI characters discuss your content. A fun way to listen to research!

Example prompts you can try

💡 Act like a **neurologist** and explain which cranial nerves are important for speech articulation. Please explain how I, as a speech-language pathologist, could assess those cranial nerves.

https://eatspeakthink.com/chatgpt-for-speech-therapy-2025/

💡 Act like an **AAC expert** and give me step-by-step instructions for how to create a new message in [insert name] software.

💡 Act like a **utilization management specialist**. I'm going to describe my last speech therapy session, and I'd like you to suggest how I can word my visit note to show the skill I provided.

💡 Act like a **life coach** and help me find strategies to improve work-life balance.

💡 Act like you are an **SLP** preparing for a session with an adult who has expressive aphasia. Their goal is to be able to call their salon and make an appointment. We've practiced a simple script, but they are concerned that the receptionist might say something unexpected. Could you make a list of possible things a receptionist might say?

💡 Act like a **prompt engineering expert** and tell me how I could improve the following prompt, so that the results are as accurate as possible. Just for context, I'm an SLP working with an adult who has dysarthria. The following prompt has gotten me some good sentences, but the /z/ sound is mostly represented by words ending in "-ize". This is repetitive and not reflective of actual conversation. How can I reword this prompt to get words such as "cheesecake", "pansy", "browse", or "fries"? Here is my current prompt: Please create a list of 10 sentences such that each sentence contains several words containing the /s/ and /z/ sounds. Please remember the difference between phonology/phonetics and orthography."

Selected References

- Coursera. (2025, January 6). *How to write ChatGPT prompts*. Coursera. Retrieved January 18, 2025, from https://www.coursera.org/articles/how-to-write-chatgpt-prompts
- FreySoft. (n.d.). *Mastering ChatGPT prompts: Your guide to effective usage*. FreySoft. Retrieved January 18, 2025, from https://freysoft.com/blog/mastering-chatgpt-prompts-your-guide-to-effective-usage/
- Mamlekar, C. R., Healey, K., Tellis, G. M., Olley, O., Rosenthal, A., Cimino, L., Alunni, M., Roberts, E., Tellis, C., Scott, K. S., Philippen, D., Atherton, A., & Prinzi, A. (2024, December). Artificial Intelligence in Clinical Practice: Exploring the Use of AI in Speech and Language Therapy. [Conference Presentation]. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention, Seattle, WA. Retrieved December 15, 2024, from https://convention.asha.org/schedule-and-program/program-planner/
- Ramachandra, V., Dew, C., Reethee, A., Covington, N., Duff, D., Gabel, R., Glassman, J., Lee, J., Pakulski, L., Radhakrishnan, N., Venkatesan, S., Schultz, V., Heintzelman, A., Kalt, T., & Smith, O. (2024, December). Accuracy and Completeness of ChatGPT Responses in Clinical Decision-Making: Opportunities and Challenges. [Conference Presentation]. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention, Seattle, WA. Retrieved December 15, 2024, from https://convention.asha.org/schedule-and-program/program-planner/
- Rodrigues, N., & McPherson, R. (2024, December). New Kid on the Block: The Emergence of AI Technologies in Therapy. [Conference Presentation]. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention, Seattle, WA. Retrieved December 15, 2024, from https://convention.asha.org/schedule-and-program/program-planner/